

COMPREHENSION CHALLENGES



Did you know that you can't always tell a plant from an animal just by looking? Some plants look like animals, and some animals appear to be plants.

At the bottom of the ocean, there is a specimen that looks like a flower growing out of the ocean floor. However, if a fish should swim too close and touches the flower's petals, a small mouth opens up and in goes the fish.

Do flowers ever have mouths?

No! There is not a plant known to man that has a mouth. Plants do not eat in that manner. Most plants make their own food from sunshine, air, and water.

The flower on the ocean floor is able to move. Can plants move from place to place?

No! A plant grows from a seed and stays rooted in the same place unless man, animals, or the forces of nature move it.

So this living thing at the bottom of the sea is not a plant but an animal. Because it moves from place to place and eats with a mouth. It is a sea anemone.

Remember, if a living thing moves from place to place and eats with its mouth, it is an animal.

1. This story tells:
 - (a) about the sea anemone
 - (b) how to describe a plant
 - (c) how to tell a plant from an animal
 - (d) about plants that eat animals
2. A plant cannot:
 - (a) move any of its parts
 - (b) grow from seeds
 - (c) take in food through a mouth
 - (d) look like an animal
3. You know a living thing is an animal if it:
 - (a) does not look like a plant
 - (b) does not make its own food
 - (c) can move from one spot
 - (d) can eat insects
4. The sea anemone:
 - (a) appears to be a plant
 - (b) cannot be mistaken for a plant
 - (c) looks like a fish
 - (d) cannot move from one place
5. Before a sea anemone opens its mouth,
 - (a) a fish must swim by
 - (b) its feelers must be touched
 - (c) it must move from the spot it is in
 - (d) it must come up for air
6. In this story floor means:
 - (a) a part of a room
 - (b) to cover with flooring
 - (c) the right to address a group
 - (d) the lower surface
7. This story shows that:
 - (a) a thing is not always what it appears to be
 - (b) there are many types of plants
 - (c) there are many strange things in the ocean
 - (d) all plants make their own food
8. The purpose of the flower-like appearance of the sea anemone is to:
 - (a) encourage scuba diving
 - (b) attract food for its survival
 - (c) encourage their use as decorations
 - (d) make it difficult to tell plants from animals